SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the expert Committee's report on pension scheme for journalists and other employees of the newspapers and news agencies;

(b) if so, what is the Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by what time a decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) The report of the Expert Committee has been considered by the Central Board of Trustees Employees Provident Fund. The Board has recommended to the Government a Pension Scheme for all Provident Fund subscribers including Journalists and other employees of the newspaper establishments. The recommendations of the Board which are presently under consideration of the Government envisage amendment in the EPF & (MP) Act, 1952, hence no specific time limit for the final decision can be indicated.

Setting up of an Inter-tate Coordination Cell for the migrant workers

499. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from some of the Chief Ministers to set up an Inter-State Coordination Cell to deal with the problems faced by the migrant labourers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conversion of provident fund into an elaborate pension scheme

500. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to convert the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) into an elaborate pension scheme from 1993-94 onwards:

(b) whether Government propose to launch a new Investment Plan by which this fund's capital could be put into mutual funds and real estate;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons for changing of Provident Fund to pension scheme;

(d) whether Government's policy planners in the Labour Ministry have fully examined/considered all the recommendations made by the HOTA Committee and consulted Labour and Employees' Unions in the matter, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the above scheme would be beneficial to Government exchequer or employees as a whole?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The recommendations of the HOTA Committee have been considered by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund which is a tripartite body consisting of representatives from employers, employees and Government. The Board has recommended introduction of a suitable Pension Scheme for the members of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme. The recommendations of the Board are presently under consideration of the Government. The scheme is intended to be beneficial to the employees.

Worker's Cooperations to Run Sick Public Sector Undertakings

501. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI J. P. JAVALI:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: